participants of Phase II of Goa Liberation Movement (1954-55) from the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Goa by relaxing the eligibility criteria of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. At the time of taking the above decision, information that some freedom fighters from Kerala had also participated in GLM Phase II and the State Government had granted them pension, was not available. Therefore, the benefit of pension could not be extended to such freedom fighters of Kerala.

Statement

Details of pensions granted to participants of Goa Liberation Movement Phase—II

Name of State	Number of applications received with verification reports of State Government	Number of cases in which pension has been sanctioned up to 29.2.2008	Number of cases closed/rejected	Cases under process as on 29.2.2008
Maharashtra	1537	1240	32	265
Goa	643	525	28	90
Haryana	8	8	0	0
Rajasthan	22	22	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	5	5	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	84	84	0	0
TOTAL	2299	1884	60	355

Losses due to floods in Andhra Pradesh

2083. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry the losses incurred by the State of Andhra Pradesh due to floods and incessant rains in the State in August/September last year;

(b) whether his Ministry is aware that the loss to standing crop is to the extent of Rs. 350 crores;

(c) if so, whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in his Ministry for helping the State; and

(d) if so, the details of request and action that has been taken for helping the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government, based on their preliminary assessment, 260 human lives were lost, 5.24 lakh ha. cropped area, 6,54,516 houses were damaged due to floods/incessant rains during 2007-08 (including August/September 2007) in the State.

The State of Andhra Pradesh has been allocated an amount of Rs. 379.35 crore in Calamity

Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 2007-08 consisting of Rs. 284.51 crore as Central contribution and Rs. 94.84 crore as State contribution. Entire Central share of CRF, amounting to Rs. 284.51 crore for the year 2007-08 has been released.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted 2 memoranda seeking additional assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for relief operations in the areas affected by floods during 2007-08. High Level Committee (HLC) considered the request (1st memorandum) of the State and approved the assistance Rs. 136.053 crore from NCCF, subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance in the CRF account and payment of Air bills on actual basis.

Regarding 2nd memorandum Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited Andhra Pradesh during 16—19 December, 2007, for as on the spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds. The report of the Central Team has been received and processed. Certain clarifications have been sought from the State Government, which are still awaited. On receipt of clarifications, the request of the State Government will be placed before Inter Ministerial Group and High Level Committee for consideration and approval of assistance to the State from NCCF.

Streamlining the recruitment process in para-military forces

2084. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons at the lowest level recruited by para-military force under jurisdiction of his Ministry during 2007, force-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that at a number of recruitment centres of various paramilitary forces, no tests, physical or written could be conducted due to the creation of chaotic conditions by the aspirants;

(c) if so, the details thereof in each case;

(d) whether there is any proposal to streamline the recruitment process by these forces so as to avoid such situations; and

(e) by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) The recruitment tests are organized by the Forces at centres throughout the country. Position is being checked, particularly in the context of any untoward incident at these centres.

Naxalites recruiting minors in their troops

†2085. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that naxalites are recruiting minors in their troops;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that these minors get military training in addition of collecting information for the naxalites; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.